

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-10

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TAGS: EAID, CA

SUBJ: CIDA PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES NEW AID STRATEGY

1. PAUL GERIN-LAJOIE, PRESIDENT OF CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CIDA) TOLD PRESS CONFERENCE ON OCTOBER 9 THAT CIDA IS DEVELOPING BASIC FIVE-YEAR AID STRATEGY WHICH WILL CONCENTRATE MORE ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE. HE ALSO ANNOUNCED C\$230 MILLION FIVE-YEAR AID PROGRAM FOR SAHELIAN RELIEF.

2. ACCORDING TO NEWS ACCOUNTS, GERIN-LAJOIE TOLD PRESS INTER ALIA THAT:

A. CANADA MAKES MORE FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THROUGH INCREASES IN ITS COMMODITY PRICES THAN IT GIVES IN INCREASED AID. (CANADA HAD MADE ADDITIONAL C\$300 MILLION TO C\$500 MILLION IN SALES TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHILE INCREASING AID BY ONLY C\$150 MILLION).

B. TOTAL CANADIAN AID NEXT YEAR SHOULD REACH .53 PERCENT OF GNP COMPARED WITH .48 PERCENT AT PRESENT, AND CANADA SHOULD REACH UN TARGET OF UNCLASSIFIED

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.7 PERCENT IN 1980.

C. NEW CIDA STRATEGY WILL BE IN TWO TIERS --
MORE FOOD AID AND MOR AGRICULTURAL AID TO
ASSIST COUNTRIES TO MEET FOOD NEEDS. NEW
STRATEGY MUST HAVE GREATER ALLOCATIONS OF
FOOD AND EMPHASIZE MORE MONEY FOR AGRICULTURE
AND RENEWABLE RESOURCES. PORTER

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